

UPJOHN PARK

NAMED FOR: Mayor William E. Upjohn - 1918 - benefactor
NAMED BY: resolution 2/3/1919 vol. 23 pg. 895
ADDRESS: Lake & Walter
CURRENT SIZE: 19.08 acres

FORMER NAMES:
DESIGNATED PARKLAND:
ON CITY PARKS LIST?

10/12/1981
 YES

PARCEL ACQUISITIONS:

DATE	FROM	BY	DEED #	DESCRIPTION
1/31/1919	W. E. Upjohn	gift	196	Pt. N&S qtr line of S.22 123' S of Vine St. S 712.5' to center of Axtell Creek; SW 74 ft along creek; SE 219.64' to Versluis Ct.; E 187.33'; N 2.3'; E along N line of Den Bleyker's add. to Portage Creek; S to Lake St.; NE along Lake St. 175.8'; N to EW qtr line of S.22; E to NW corner lot 15 of Well's & Parker's Add.; N along W line of lots 58 & 59 Hoek's add. To S line of Johnson St.; W 132'; N 110.22'; to S line of lot 43; W along lots 62 & 67 to Portage Creek; N along creek to Vine; W to a pt. 150.5' E of qtr line; S 123'; W 150.5'. N of lot 15
3/27/1925	L. Meisterheim	\$ 2,000.00	264	
12/13/1926	J. Van der Velde	\$ 3,800.00	281	Pt. On S line of E. Vine St. 99' E of N/S qtr line of S. 22; S 123'; E 49.5'; N 123'; W 49.5'.
	Upjohn Civic Trust contrib. \$1900			
5/26/1927	L. Luteyn	\$ 4,500.00	289	Pt. 137' W of NW corner of lot 15 of Wells & Parker's add.; W 40'; SE 205.72'; NE 40.4'; NW 199.4'; W to beg.
11/26/1927	W. Wheaton	\$ 3,500.00	292	Pt. NE corner of lot 175 of Den Bleyker's add.; W 49.5'; N 99'; E 49.5'; S 99'.
	Upjohn Civic Trust contrib. \$1000			
11/31/1927	W. E. Upjohn	gift	294	Pt. NE corner of lot 275 Den Bleyker's add. W 4.8'; S to a point 102' N of S line of lot 278; E to Portage Creek; N to NE corner of lot 278; W to beg. Pt. On N line of Den Bleyker's add. Lot 275; W 4.8'; S 49.5' to SE corner of lot 275; N to N line of lot 275; N to N line of lot 278; W to beg. Pt. On S line of Versluis Ct. 268' E of John St.; NE 187.33'; SE to N line of Den Bleyker's add.; SW to a point 99' E of John St.; N 96'; NE 169' to beg. lots 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, lots 32-43 of Hoek's addition
1/2/1929	Kalamazoo Garbage Co.	\$ 8,900.00	303	
	Upjohn Civic Trust contrib. \$4450			
10/3/1929	W. VanderVelde	unknown	325	Vine St. ROW
1/16/1931	L. Shirley	\$ 10,000.00	330	part of lot 19 Hoek's add. (auto junk yard)
	Upjohn Civic Trust contrib. \$5000			
1/7/1932	L. Price	\$ 50.00	339	lot 16 Hoek's add.
12/30/1931	R. Cleland & F. Phillips	\$ 51.00	341	Pt. E line of lot 16 of Hoek's add. 42' N of SE corner of lot; W 99'; N 42'; E 99'; S 42'.
1/16/1932	S. Mezak	unknown	344	part of lot 16 Hoek's add. 810 Plow
1/28/1932	J. DeRight et al.	unknown	348	lot 38 Hoek's add. 822 Walter
1/28/1932	A. van der Molen	unknown	349	S of Vine near Plow 422 E. Vine
2/10/1932	M. Westrate	\$ 5,500.00	350	519 Lake St.
3/22/1935	E. Hinckley	\$ 1,800.00	367	N 84.7' of lot 12 Hoek's add. 518 E. Vine
3/22/1935	F. Stewart	\$ 1,800.00	368	lot 15 Hoek's add. 502 E. Vine
4/24/1935	M. Allen	unknown	369	N 84.7' of lot 10 Hoek's add. 528 E. Vine
1/16/1936	F. Newell	unknown	374	N 84.7' of lot 11 Hoek's add. 524 E. Vine
6/1/1937	B. Kelley	unknown	396	portions of lots 14-15 Hoek's add. 506 E. Vine
7/29/1937	B. Meints	unknown	398	Lot 22 Hoek's add. 814 Walter
4/20/1938	Protesting Christian Reformed Church	gift	402	Pt. NE corner of lot 15 of Well's & Parker's add.; W 132'; N 66'; E 132'; S 66'.
9/16/1938	D. Sootsma	unknown	409	portion of lot 14 & 15 Hoek's 811 Plow
9/24/1938	M. Downing	unknown	410	portion of lot W 99' of lot 24 815 Plow Hoek's add.

DATE	FROM	BY	DEED #	DESCRIPTION	
7/7/1944	M. Vlieg	\$3,500.00	585	parcel on E. John St.	219 VerSluis Ct.
8/8/1944	I. Gilman	\$5,000.00	586	208 Upjohn	
7/13/1944	J. Vanden Brink	\$4,250.00	587	212 Upjohn	
7/13/1944	P. Alphenaar et al.	\$3,500.00	588	214 Upjohn	
7/7/1944	D. Van Gemert	\$3,500.00	589	218 Upjohn	
7/7/1944	R. Groot	\$4,500.00	590	220 Upjohn	
7/7/1944	J. Versluis	\$4,500.00	591	1027 John St.	
7/13/1944	M. Schrier et al.	\$7,890.00	592	parcel John St. to Axtell Creek	
8/8/1944	J. Imanse	\$4,125.00	593	215 Ver Sluis Ct.	
8/8/1944	J. Morrison et al.	\$4,350.00	594	parcel John St. to Axtell Creek	
8/8/1944	J. DeBoer	unknown	595	parcel John St. to Axtell Creek	
11/29/1944	A. Lemmer et al.	\$ 4,000.00	604	541 Lake St.	
11/29/1944	M. Allen	\$ 5,500.00	605	414 E. Vine	
11/29/1944	H. Van Der Wall	\$ 3,300.00	606	1004 Walter	
11/29/1944	A. Yonker	\$ 6,000.00	607	316 E. Vine	
11/29/1944	C. Palmer	\$ 3,300.00	608	817 Plow St.	
11/29/1944	E. Davis	\$ 2,000.00	609	922 Walter	
11/29/1944	N. Cross	\$ 5,500.00	610	410 E. Vine	
11/29/1944	L. Rice	\$ 1.00	611	410 E. Vine	
11/29/1944	M. Yucker	\$ 3,700.00	612	1016 Walter	
11/29/1944	C. Van Loo	\$ 5,500.00	614	527 Lake St.	
11/29/1944	L. Luteyn	\$ 4,500.00	615	523 Lake St.	
11/29/1944	A. Georgiou	\$ 6,000.00	616	533 Lake St.	
11/29/1944	E. Griffith	\$ 5,500.00	618	320 E. Vine	
11/29/1944	N. Papp	\$ 6,000.00	622	918 Walter	
11/29/1944	J. Van Werden	\$ 3,875.00	623	1021 John St.	
11/29/1944	H. Theunissen	\$ 6,000.00	626	945 Boerman	
11/29/1944	D. Crosby	\$ 4,500.00	627	1020 Walter	
11/29/1944	D. Crosby et al.	\$ 5,000.00	628	1024 Walter	
11/29/1944	J. Imanse	\$ 450.00	631	215 Ver Sluis Ct.	
12/7/1944	H. DeDoes	\$ 4,000.00	635	318 E. Vine	
7/12/1944	J. Ver Sluis	\$ 4,700.00	636	223 Ver Sluis Ct.	
1/2/1945	H. Vanderroest	\$ 5,500.00	637	808 Walter	
1/2/1945	H. Vanderroest	\$ 6,000.00	638	818 Walter	
4/27/1945	J. De Boer	\$ 300.00	641	207 Ver Sluis Ct.	
12/13/1945	R. Balkema (418 E. Vine)	\$ 13,500.00	649	1- Pt. SE corner of lot 16 of Hoek's add.; N along Plow St. 42'; W 99'; S 42'; E 99'. 2- Pt. On S line of Vine St. 200' E of Portage Creek (in 1887); W 45'; S 214.5'; E to a pt. 99' W of Plow St.; N. to beg.	
12/13/1946	State of Michigan	quit claim	666	1/2 of lot 13 Hoek's add. -12'	
12/4/1947	M. Geiger	gift	693	Lot 13 of Hoek's add. -12'	
3/27/1948	D. Davidoff	\$ 1,000.00	696	1/2 of lot 13 Hoek's add. -12'	
6/16/1965	Consumers Sand & Gravel	\$ 2,500.00	1346	823 Boerman	
3/24/1967	C. Koets et al.	\$ 5,500.00	1418	811 Boerman	
7/20/1967	G. Troff	\$ 4,500.00	1432	909 Boerman	
12/20/1968	N. Vanderroest et al.	\$ 5,850.00	1478	907 Boerman	
9/22/1971	I. Goldstein	\$ 3,500.00	1580	915 Boerman	
10/7/1971	G. Somers	\$ 2,900.00	1581	937 Boerman	
8/21/1972	W. Roberts	\$ 5,000.00	1605	919 Boerman	
10/16/1973	D. Knisely	\$ 12,000.00	1640	829 Boerman	
12/21/1973	T. Kent et al.	\$ 7,901.00	1645	927 Boerman	

DEED RESTRICTIONS:

DISPOSITIONS:

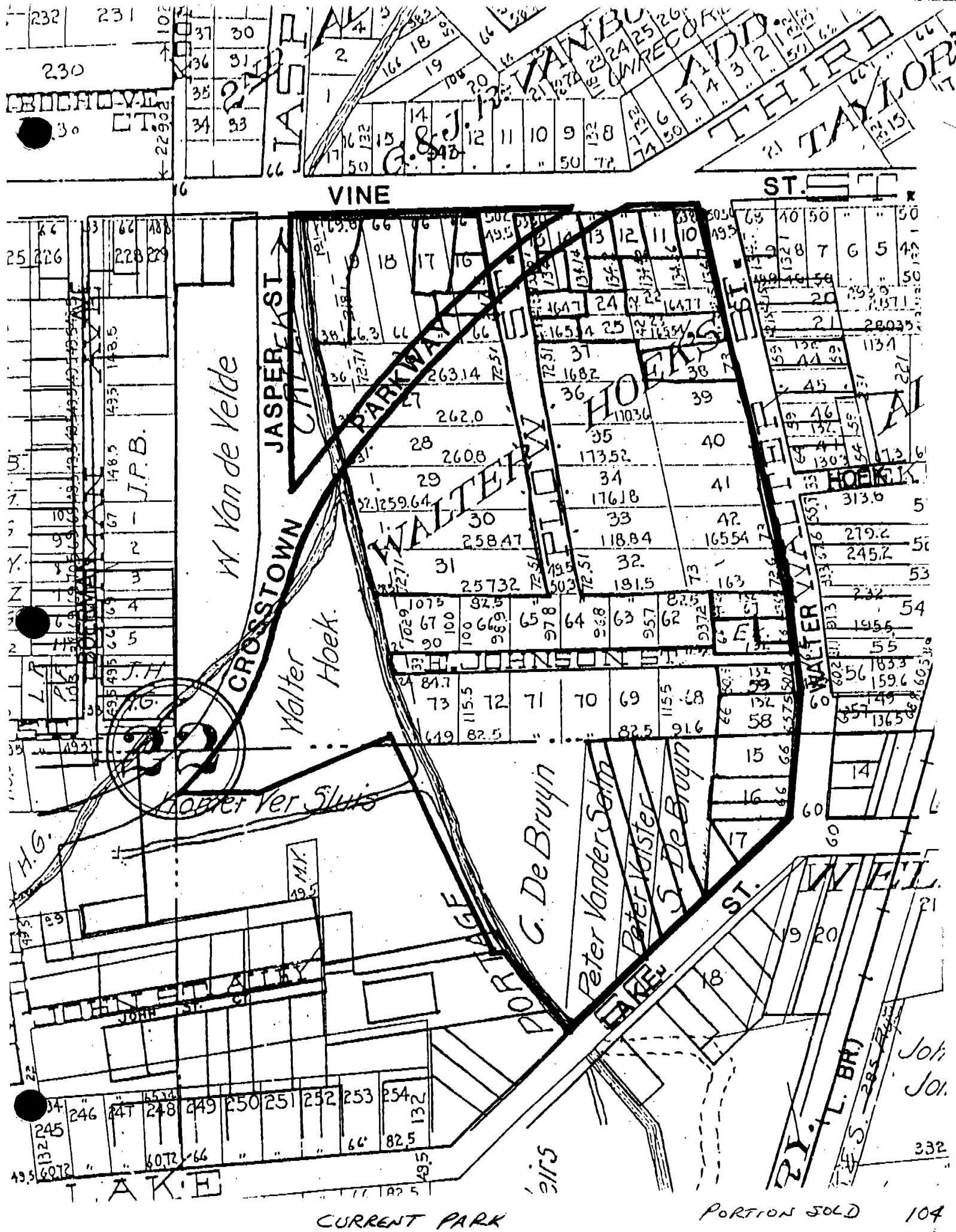
Land sales in 1930 & 1960 plus 1989 sales to Senior Services Inc. & Consumers Power.
Some land purchases have been integrated into Axtell (Crosstown) Park and Crosstown Pkwy buffer areas.

SHORT HISTORY:

Upjohn Park began as a gift from Mayor William E. Upjohn in 1919. Mr. Upjohn donated three more parcels in the 1920's. The Upjohn Civic Trust Fund also participated in the 1930's & 1940's enlarging of the park by supplying half the funds needed to purchase adjoining properties. There is no mistake that all parcels East of John Street, including those on Boerman Avenue, were purchased for Upjohn Park expansion with Parks & Recreation Department funds.

The Parks & Rec garage used to sit on parkland but was sold in the 1960's. For many years the Board of Education used Upjohn Park for high school athletic events. It has always been a neighborhood park but with community-wide assets such as the swimming pool, wading pool, tennis courts, football field, softball diamonds, etc.

In 1989 the Helen Coover Center and the parkland upon which it sits was sold to Senior Services Inc. for \$10.00. While the community did not unanimously agree with the decision, the selling of the park land beneath was never challenged.



UPJOHN PARK

Acquisitions by Clerk's deed file



ORIGINAL GIFT
1920's Additions
1930's Additions

1940's Additions
1960-70's Additions

LOWER INSURANCE RATES.

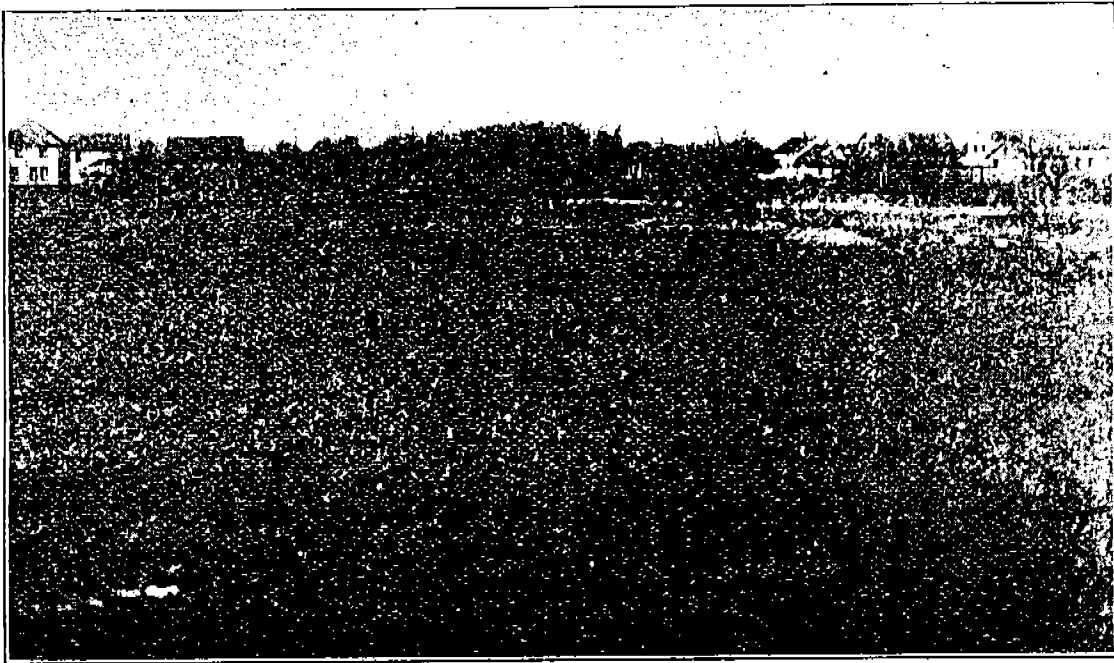
For the past several years Kalamazoo has been rated in class two and a half by the underwriters. Certain requirements in water mains, fire fighting apparatus and reduction of fire hazard were not met by City Administrations and the property owners were made to suffer thereby. The present City Commission was quick to see the need of complying with these requirements and the result is a well defined plan of so much improvement each year which has met the approval of the underwriters and on June first Kalamazoo was restored to class two. Ultimately this will result in the saving of thousands of dollars to Kalamazoo taxpayers, at the same time reducing the hazard of fire.

TREES.

One of the greatest needs in Kalamazoo today is for a well equipped, well financed Bureau of Forestry. One of the city's greatest assets is its trees, and unfortunately too little attention has been paid to them in the past, with the result that many are now showing signs of rapid decay. Aside from the very decided need for considerable tree trimming there is even a still greater need for some extensive work in the line of tree surgery. A small appropriation was made during this summer to carry on tree trimming work and it is hopeful that the Commission will create the Bureau of Forestry when the 1920 budget is prepared this fall.

MAYOR UPJOHN'S GIFT.

Only occasionally does any city receive from one of its citizens so splendid and useful a gift as the one recently given to Kalamazoo by Mayor W. E. Upjohn. The seventeen acre plot lies between Burdick and Portage Streets just south of Vine Street, in easy walking distance of five city schools. The deed given



UPJOHN PARK

the city indicates that Dr. Upjohn's wish is to have the land used for park and playground purposes.

In accepting the gift the City Commission adopted a resolution expressing their high appreciation of the generous public spirit manifested in the Mayor's action, and, as a mark of gratitude on behalf of the city, named the tract of land "Upjohn Park."

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY.

The past year has seen many fine improvements made at Riverside Cemetery. 3,200 feet new drives were built and graveled, and two new sections graded and laid out in lots ready for burial purposes. During the year quite a large piece of property fronting on Gull Road was added to the cemetery. Mr. W. L. LaCrone, Superintendent, has some very fine plans for a new receiving vault and a new cemetery house, both of which should be built within the next few years.